

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EURE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10

NSAE-00 USIA-06 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04

SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 INRE-00 SSO-00 /110 W

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O R 151735Z SEP 76

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 3389

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OECD PARIS 26924

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OECD

SUBJECT: COLOMBIAN APPLICATION FOR OECD MEMBERSHIP

REF: STATE 6106

1. SECGEN HAS CALLED HEADS OF DEL MEETING FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 TO CONSIDER BEST MEANS OF HANDLING FORMAL COLOMBIAN APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN OECD. COLOMBIAN APPLICATION CONVEYED IN SEPTEMBER 13 TELEGRAM TO VAN LENNEP FROM FINANCE MINISTER BOTERO, TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS:
BEGIN TEXT

OUR AMBASSADOR IN PARIS HAS INFORMED YOU OF COLOMBIA'S INTEREST IN JOINING OECD. I HEREBY OFFICIALLY CONFIRM COLOMBIA'S APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP AND ITS WILLINGNESS TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE 1960 CONVENTION.

IN VIEW OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF ARTICLE 16, WE ARE SIMULTANEOUSLY INFORMING GOVERNMENTS OF ALL OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THIS APPLICATION AND REQUEST-
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ING THEIR SUPPORT FOR SAME.

I WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR INFORMING THE COUNCIL OF THIS APPLICATION AND INCLUDING IT IN THE AGENDA FOR CONSIDERATION AT SOME SUITABLE DATE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. WILL GLADLY SUPPLY ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION ON THE COLOMBIAN ECONOMY THAT YOU SHOULD CONSIDER USEFUL FOR COUNCIL'S DELIBERATIONS.

IF NECESSARY, I WOULD BE PREPARED TO PRESENT COLOMBIA'S CASE PERSONALLY BEFORE THE COUNCIL AT A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT OPPORTUNITY. END TEXT

2. FYI: VAN LENNEP'S CHEF DE CABINET HAS INFORMED US THAT COLOMBIAN AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE CALLED ON VAN LENNEP IN EARLY JULY UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO SOUND OUT POSSIBILITIES FOR COLOMBIAN MEMBERSHIP. VAN LENNEP INFORMED HIM ON PERSONAL BASIS THAT HE SAW NO POSSIBILITY OF AGREEMENT TO COLOMBIAN ACCESSION AND COLOMBIAN AMBASSADOR INDICATED HE WOULD RECOMMEND AGAINST FORMAL APPLICATION. VAN LENNEP HEARD NOTHING MORE ON THIS MATTER UNTIL HE RECEIVED BOTERO TELEGRAM. END FYI.

3. UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED BY OPENING OF BUSINESS SEPTEMBER 17, MISSION WILL VOICE NEGATIVE POSITION IN HEADS OF DEL MEETING SIMILAR TO THAT CONTAINED IN REF-TEL, I.E., THAT OECD IS RESTRICTED FORUM IN WHICH THE INDUSTRIALIZED STATES CONSIDER ECONOMIC ISSUES OF COMMON INTEREST AND POSSIBLE APPROACHES TO THESE ISSUES AND THAT EFFECTIVENESS OF ORGANIZATION DEPENDS TO LARGE DEGREE ON ITS SMALL AND RELATIVELY HOMOGENEOUS MEMBERSHIP.
TURNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976OECDP26924
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760348-0410
From: OECD PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760958/aaaabxmrl
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 6106
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <11 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COLOMBIAN APPLICATION FOR OECD MEMBERSHIP
TAGS: ECON, CE, OECD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006